

Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems in Stationary Sources

Performance Specification 3—Specifications and Test Procedures for O₂ and CO₂ Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems in Stationary Sources

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PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION 1—SPECIFICATIONS AND TEST PROCEDURES FOR CONTINUOUS OPACITY MONITORING SYSTEMS IN STATIONARY SOURCES

1.0 What Is the Purpose and Applicability of Performance Specification 1?

Performance Specification 1 (PS-1) provides (1) requirements for the design, performance, and installation of a continuous opacity monitoring system (COMS) and (2) data computation procedures for evaluating the acceptability of a COMS. It specifies activities for two groups (1) the owner or operator and (2) the opacity monitor manufacturer.

1.1 Measurement Parameter. PS-1 covers the instrumental measurement of opacity caused by attenuation of projected light due

to absorption and scatter of the light by particulate matter in the effluent gas stream.

1.2 What COMS must comply with PS-1? If you are an owner or operator of a facility with a COMS as a result of this Part, then PS-1 applies to your COMS if one of the following is true:

(1) Your facility has a new COMS installed after February 6, 2001; or

(2) Your COMS is replaced, relocated, or substantially refurbished (in the opinion of the regulatory authority) after February 6, 2001; or

(3) Your COMS was installed before February 6, 2001 and is specifically required by regulatory action other than the promulgation of PS-1 to be recertified.

If you are an opacity monitor manufacturer, then paragraph 8.2 applies to you.

1.3 Does PS-1 apply to a facility with an applicable opacity limit less than 10 percent? If you are an owner or operator of a facility with a COMS as a result of this Part and the applicable opacity limit is less than 10 percent, then PS-1 applies to your COMS as described in section 1.2; taking into account (through statistical procedures or otherwise) the uncertainties associated with opacity measurements, and following the conditions for attenuators selection for low opacity applications as outlined in Section 8.1(3)(ii). At your option, you, the source owner or operator, may select to establish a reduced full scale range of no less than 50 percent opacity instead of the 80 percent as prescribed in section 3.5, if the applicable opacity limit for your facility is less than 10 percent. The EPA recognizes that reducing the range of the analyzer to 50 percent does not necessarily result in any measurable improvement in measurement accuracy at opacity levels less than 10 percent; however, it may allow improved chart recorder interpretation.

1.4 What data uncertainty issues apply to COMS data? The measurement uncertainties associated with COMS data result from several design and performance factors including limitations on the availability of calibration attenuators for opacities less than about 6 percent (3 percent for single-pass instruments), calibration error tolerances, zero and upscale drift tolerances, and allowance for dust compensation that are significant relative to low opacity levels. The full scale requirements of this PS may also contribute to measurement uncertainty for opacity measurements where the applicable limits are below 10 percent opacity.

2.0 What Are the Basic Requirements of PS-1?

PS-1 requires (1) opacity monitor manufacturers comply with a comprehensive series of design and performance specifications and test procedures to certify opacity monitoring equipment before shipment to the end

user, (2) the owner or operator to follow installation guidelines, and (3) the owner or operator to conduct a set of field performance tests that confirm the acceptability of the COMS after it is installed.

2.1 ASTM D 6216-98 is the reference for design specifications, manufacturer's performance specifications, and test procedures. The opacity monitor manufacturer must periodically select and test an opacity monitor, that is representative of a group of monitors produced during a specified period or lot, for conformance with the design specifications in ASTM D 6216-98. The opacity monitor manufacturer must test each opacity monitor for conformance with the manufacturer's performance specifications in ASTM D 6216-98.

2.2 Section 8.1(2) provides guidance for locating an opacity monitor in vertical and horizontal ducts. You are encouraged to seek approval for the opacity monitor location from the appropriate regulatory authority prior to installation.

2.3 After the COMS is installed and calibrated, the owner or operator must test the COMS for conformance with the field performance specifications in PS-1.

3.0 What Special Definitions Apply to PS-1?

3.1 All definitions and discussions from section 3 of ASTM D 6216-98 are applicable to PS-1.

3.2 *Centroid Area.* A concentric area that is geometrically similar to the stack or duct cross-section and is no greater than 1 percent of the stack or duct cross-sectional area.

3.3 *Data Recorder.* That portion of the installed COMS that provides a permanent record of the opacity monitor output in terms of opacity. The data recorder may include automatic data reduction capabilities.

3.4 *External Audit Device.* The inherent design, equipment, or accommodation of the opacity monitor allowing the independent assessment of the COMS's calibration and operation.

3.5 *Full Scale.* The maximum data display output of the COMS. For purposes of record-keeping and reporting, full scale will be greater than 80 percent opacity.

3.6 *Operational Test Period.* A period of time (168 hours) during which the COMS is expected to operate within the established performance specifications without any unscheduled maintenance, repair, or adjustment.

3.7 *Primary Attenuators.* Those devices (glass or grid filter that reduce the transmission of light) calibrated according to procedures in section 7.1.

3.8 *Secondary Attenuators.* Those devices (glass or grid filter that reduce the transmission of light) calibrated against primary attenuators according to procedures in section 7.2.

3.9 *System Response Time.* The amount of time the COMS takes to display 95 percent of a step change in opacity on the COMS data recorder.

4.0 Interferences. Water Droplets

5.0 What Do I Need To Know To Ensure the Safety of Persons Using PS-1?

The procedures required under PS-1 may involve hazardous materials, operations, and equipment. PS-1 does not purport to address all of the safety problems associated with these procedures. Before performing these procedures, you must establish appropriate safety and health practices, and you must determine the applicable regulatory limitations. You should consult the COMS user's manual for specific precautions to take.

6.0 What Equipment and Supplies Do I Need?

6.1 *Continuous Opacity Monitoring System.* You, as owner or operator, are responsible for purchasing an opacity monitor that meets the specifications of ASTM D 6216-98, including a suitable data recorder or automated data acquisition handling system. Example data recorders include an analog strip chart recorder or more appropriately an electronic data acquisition and reporting system with an input signal range compatible with the analyzer output.

6.2 *Calibration Attenuators.* You, as owner or operator, are responsible for purchasing a minimum of three calibration attenuators that meet the requirements of PS-1. Calibration attenuators are optical filters with neutral spectral characteristics. Calibration attenuators must meet the requirements in section 7 and must be of sufficient size to attenuate the entire light beam received by the detector of the COMS. For transmissometers operating over a narrow bandwidth (e.g., laser), a calibration attenuator's value is determined for the actual operating wavelengths of the transmissometer. Some filters may not be uniform across the face. If errors result in the daily calibration drift or calibration error test, you may want to examine the across-face uniformity of the filter.

6.3 *Calibration Spectrophotometer.* Whoever calibrates the attenuators must have a spectrophotometer that meets the following minimum design specifications:

Parameter	Specification
Wavelength range	300–800 nm.
Detector angle of view	<10°.
Accuracy	<0.5% transmittance, NIST traceable calibration.

7.0 What Reagents and Standards Do I Need?

You will need to use attenuators (i.e., neutral density filters) to check the daily calibration drift and calibration error of a

COMS. Attenuators are designated as either primary or secondary based on how they are calibrated.

7.1 Attenuators are designated primary in one of two ways:

- (1) They are calibrated by NIST; or
- (2) They are calibrated on a 6-month frequency through the assignment of a luminous transmittance value in the following manner:

- (i) Use a spectrophotometer meeting the specifications of section 6.3 to calibrate the required filters. Verify the spectrophotometer calibration through use of a NIST 930D Standard Reference Material (SRM). A SRM 930D consists of three neutral density glass filters and a blank, each mounted in a cuvette. The wavelengths and temperature to be used in the calibration are listed on the NIST certificate that accompanies the reported values. Determine and record a transmittance of the SRM values at the NIST wavelengths (three filters at five wavelengths each for a total of 15 determinations). Calculate a percent difference between the NIST certified values and the spectrophotometer response. At least 12 of the 15 differences (in percent) must be within ± 0.5 percent of the NIST SRM values. No difference can be greater than ± 1.0 percent. Recalibrate the SRM or service the spectrophotometer if the calibration results fail the criteria.

- (ii) Scan the filter to be tested and the NIST blank from wavelength 380 to 780 nm, and record the spectrophotometer percent transmittance responses at 10 nm intervals. Test in this sequence: blank filter, tested filter, tested filter rotated 90 degrees in the plane of the filter, blank filter. Calculate the average transmittance at each 10 nm interval. If any pair of the tested filter transmittance values (for the same filter and wavelength) differ by more than ± 0.25 percent, rescan the tested filter. If the filter fails to achieve this tolerance, do not use the filter in the calibration tests of the COMS.

- (iii) Correct the tested filter transmittance values by dividing the average tested filter transmittance by the average blank filter transmittance at each 10 nm interval.

- (iv) Calculate the weighted (to the response of the human eye), tested filter transmittance by multiplying the transmittance value by the corresponding response factor shown in table 1-1, to obtain the Source C Human Eye Response.

- (v) Recalibrate the primary attenuators semi-annually if they are used for the required calibration error test. Recalibrate the primary attenuators annually if they are used only for calibration of secondary attenuators.

7.2 Attenuators are designated secondary if the filter calibration is done using a laboratory-based transmissometer. Conduct the

secondary attenuator calibration using a laboratory-based transmissometer calibrated as follows:

- (i) Use at least three primary filters of nominal luminous transmittance 50, 70 and 90 percent, calibrated as specified in section 7.1(2)(i), to calibrate the laboratory-based transmissometer. Determine and record the slope of the calibration line using linear regression through zero opacity. The slope of the calibration line must be between 0.99 and 1.01, and the laboratory-based transmissometer reading for each primary filter must not deviate by more than ± 2 percent from the linear regression line. If the calibration of the laboratory-based transmissometer yields a slope or individual readings outside the specified ranges, secondary filter calibrations cannot be performed. Determine the source of the variations (either transmissometer performance or changes in the primary filters) and repeat the transmissometer calibration before proceeding with the attenuator calibration.

- (ii) Immediately following the laboratory-based transmissometer calibration, insert the secondary attenuators and determine and record the percent effective opacity value per secondary attenuator from the calibration curve (linear regression line).

- (iii) Recalibrate the secondary attenuators semi-annually if they are used for the required calibration error test.

8.0 What Performance Procedures Are Required To Comply With PS-1?

Procedures to verify the performance of the COMS are divided into those completed by the owner or operator and those completed by the opacity monitor manufacturer.

8.1 What procedures must I follow as the Owner or Operator?

- (1) You must purchase an opacity monitor that complies with ASTM D 6216-98 and obtain a certificate of conformance from the opacity monitor manufacturer.

- (2) You must install the opacity monitor at a location where the opacity measurements are representative of the total emissions from the affected facility. You must meet this requirement by choosing a measurement location and a light beam path as follows:

- (i) Measurement Location. Select a measurement location that is (1) at least 4 duct diameters downstream from all particulate control equipment or flow disturbance, (2) at least 2 duct diameters upstream of a flow disturbance, (3) where condensed water vapor is not present, and (4) accessible in order to permit maintenance.

- (ii) Light Beam Path. Select a light beam path that passes through the centroidal area of the stack or duct. Also, you must follow these additional requirements or modifications for these measurement locations: